

mon, because the very qualities that made St. Stephen so strong belonged to him. He was loyal and courageous, and tender as a child. He had a deep, abiding faith in God, a strong religious nature ever living close to the Infinite. That he was brilliant and highly successful, in his profession, is known to all; but the source and fountain of that strength was the life hidden in God. The robust, strong nature of the Scotchman, frank and bright and filled with the real sunshine of true humor, we seemed to cling to him, as the ivy clings to the oak. There are so many of you, listening to me, this morning, to whom Dr. William Watt Kerr was a dear, personal friend. He was more than the physician; he was the family counsellor. He was brave to the end. With a mortal affliction, so well known to him that made certain the snapping of the vital thread at any moment, he went from home to home, administering to the sick, with all his might. He died in the very act of life's supreme duties. His, indeed, was a career of rare ability, but his kindness of heart seems to overmaster all else. Let me say, that in all the homes I have entered in this city, during a pastorate of almost eighteen years, no name was mentioned with more loving affection than that of Dr. Kerr. He ministered to almost every member of my family, and once he remained at the side of one of my children during an entire night, as she hovered between life and death. God bless and strengthen the brave woman who was his life companion, his angel as he loved to call her, the loving wife who watched over him and cared for him with so much tenderness.

EXPLANATION OF 1917 AMENDMENTS TO THE MEDICAL PRACTICE ACT.

Assembly Bill 1375 (Gebhart).

Effective after July 27, 1917.

No. 1. In Sec. 2, the annual meeting of the Board of Medical Examiners is changed from the second Tuesday of January to the third Monday in October. The place of meeting, Sacramento, is not changed.

No. 2. In Sec. 2, the language is changed so that the Board may publish and sell a directory, etc. Heretofore it seemed to be mandatory upon the Board. Also provides for an annual \$2.00 tax for all licentiates and automatically suspends or revokes the certificate of those who do not pay the tax within 60 days after January 1st of each year. Such certificate, however, may be restored on payment of \$10.00.

No. 3. Sec. 8 is amended to include the issuance of certificate to practice midwifery.

No. 4. Sec. 9 is amended to include the qualification of applicants for the future in the practice of midwifery.

No. 5. Sec. 10 is amended to include the subjects and minimum requirements of study for a certificate to practice midwifery.

No. 6. Sec. 11 is amended to list the subjects of examination for applicants to practice midwifery.

No. 7. The same section is amended to allow the use of an interpreter, selected by the Board, in an examination, the fee for same to be paid by the applicant.

No. 8. Sec. 12 is amended to give the officers of the United States Health Service the right of registration, the same as the regular United States Army or Navy medical officer. This is done at the request of Surgeon-General Blue of the United States Health Service.

No. 9. Sec. 12½ is amended to provide for the registration of the midwives already in practice in the State of California. It provides for a test of competency, proof of good moral character, etc., and a fee of \$20.00.

This section also provides for an oral, practical or clinical examination for those holders of certificates "to practice osteopathy" issued under the laws of this state, who desire to qualify for a Physician's & Surgeon's certificate.

No. 10. Sec. 13 is amended to raise the fee for reciprocity applicants from \$50.00 to \$100.00. The reciprocity feature of the act necessitates the employment of investigators, clerks, etc., and it is necessary, therefore, to raise the fee.

No. 11. Sec. 14 of the act is amended to provide for the revocation of certificates to practice midwifery.

No. 12. Sec. 15 of the act is amended to strike out the word "other" which heretofore has resulted in placing an ambiguous construction upon the terms of the section.

No. 12½—

No. 13. Sec. 17 has been amended to include both physician or surgeon or practitioner—that is, the use of any term indicating that one is licensed to practice. In the same section the penalty clause is stricken out.

No. 14. The penalty clause has been stricken out of Sec. 18.

No. 15. A new section has been created designating the act as the State Medical Practice Act, and providing a penalty for the violation of the provisions of any portion thereof.

THE SAN DIEGO MEETING.

Due to the preparations of the Committee on Arrangements, the meeting at San Diego was a great success. Over four hundred names were inscribed in the register. The management of the Hotel del Coronado spared no effort to meet the requirements of the Society and its guests. Our thanks to them all.

THE PUBLICATION COMMITTEE.

The President has appointed the following Publication Committee for 1917-18: Alfred B. Grosse, William Palmer Lucas, Alfred Cummings Reed and George E. Tucker, all of San Francisco. The Editor is *ex-officio* chairman of the committee.

THE 1918 MEETING AT DEL MONTE.

The Society will meet at Del Monte next April. This delightful spot affords every comfort and pleasure, and at the same time is far enough away from any busy center to allow those attending the meeting to forget the trials and tribulations of active practice.

Book Reviews

"The Path of the Destroyer." A history of leprosy in the Hawaiian Islands and 30 years' research into the means by which it has been spread. By A. A. St. Moritz. Honolulu, 1916.

This is a curious medley of things Hawaiian; it contains considerable matter concerning leprosy